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we now call international law than is generally recognized. The discussion of embassies and war rules and arbitration is especially valuable on this account and will necessitate the revision of many of the sweeping statements of our texts. But on the whole in spite of Mr. Phillipson's array of facts the statement that the ancients had no true international law does not seem to be upset. One cannot escape the feeling that at many points the author's enthusiasm leads him too far. The war-rules he discusses, for example, though they approach the standard of later practice, are rules which the Roman would not have been willing to admit were binding upon him by any code of rules applying to states.

One feels that the argument would be stronger if the line were drawn more closely between the references to history and the references to literature. The combat of Paris and Menelaus and the refusal of Ilus to give Odysseus poison for his arrows can scarcely be relied upon as evidence or illustrations of a generally accepted standard of international relations.

The author's painstaking search for material has led him through Greek, Latin, French, Italian and German authors. The numerous quotations in the text are as a rule either given in translation or in the original followed by an English translation. To have adopted the same plan for all quotations including those in the footnotes would have made the discussion more available to many of those who will be interested in these volumes.

Mr. Phillipson's book is in a field new to English authors. His general thesis is well maintained—the ancients did have customs applying to international relations to a much greater degree than we have been wont to recognize, but whether these usages are settled and general to an extent that would justify calling them real international law, many readers will still doubt.

CHESTER LLOYD JONES.

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Richman, I. B. *California under Spain and Mexico, 1535-1847.* Pp. xvi, 541. Price, \$4.00. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin Company, 1911.

The student of American history should feel greatly indebted to Mr. Richman for this book. Nowhere can the history of California be found so well told, in compact form, as here. The book indicates conscientious labor on the part of the author in preparing for his work; skill in condensing so much valuable information into small compass; and enthusiasm in telling the interesting story. The make-up of the book is pleasing, the maps, charts and plans are excellent. The translation of such documents as the "Galvez Report" and the "Fages Journal," the numerous quotations from sources in the text and in the notes should be appreciated by students.

The book has the merit of freshness because of the amount of new material used in its preparation. The author has written his book at a time when he has been able to avail himself of recently found documents and new monographs along special lines. This enables him to make more definite and complete statements on controverted points than was possible in previous works on the subject. The book rests so firmly on the source material that

its accuracy cannot be doubted and the author has been more than generous in the citation of authorities. The notes, moreover, make it possible for the student to go more into detail on special points and to find fuller discussion of controverted subjects, such as the attitude of England and of the United States to California before 1846.

The reader may derive from this book a good idea of the international competition which led to the discovery and settlement of California; of the system of administration of a Spanish colony and a Mexican dependency; of the mission and its relation to colonization; of the advent of the Americans and the final conquest of the country by them. The book contains many graphic descriptions of romantic incidents and of the conditions of life in early California. There are quite full characterizations of leading personalities including explorers, royal administrative officers, local officials, missionaries, fur traders and merchants.

Any adverse criticism would apply rather to the plan than the content of the book. The author undertook a somewhat difficult task in writing both for the general reader and the student. The amount of detail condensed into such small compass makes the book rather hard reading for one not already somewhat acquainted with the subject. California history is very interesting, and this book is a suitable one to open up the subject to a careful reader and student.

JAMES R. ROBERTSON.

Berea College.

Ross, Edward A. *The Changing Chinese.* Pp. xvi, 356. Price, \$2.40. New York: Century Company, 1911.

The student of race problems will welcome with enthusiasm this latest contribution to the literature of the subject. In view of the present revolutionary movement in China, nothing could be more opportune than a clear-sighted and scientific interpretation of Chinese characteristics. Professor Ross did not go to China for the purpose of gathering interesting material for a travelogue, but to obtain first-hand information for the verification or disproof of ideas concerning the Chinese which were the result of seven years' residence in California where the Oriental is best observed in America, and after many years of subsequent study of literary sources.

This volume is not primarily a description, though it abounds in descriptive material. It is an interpretation. It explains the Chinese. Superficial observers have attributed China's backward condition to its medieval government, to its antiquated industrial methods, to the static character of its people. Professor Ross assumes that these so-called causes are themselves results that need explanation quite as much as the effects which they have produced. The first chapter is a brilliant pen picture of the most obvious characters of the country and its people. "China is the European Middle Ages made visible—"a state of society . . . which will probably never recur on this planet."

The "Race Fibre" of the Chinese is due to natural selection under a bad